



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

January 15, 2009

LOCAL MEN SENTENCED FOR FAILING TO REGISTER AS SEX OFFENDERS

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that two convicted sex offenders were sentenced to federal prison in Midland today after being convicted of crossing state lines and failing to register with state authorities, a violation of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act, also known as "SORNA," which was passed by Congress in 2006 as part of the Adam Walsh child protection legislation.

"Today's sentences prove loud and clear that convicted sex offenders who refuse to register will find themselves back in federal prison," stated U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton.

United States District Judge Robert Junell sentenced 34 year old Alejandro Z. Pena to fifteen months in prison, and five years of supervised release. In his guilty plea on October 20, 2008, Pena admitted that in 1995 he had been convicted of Indecent Solicitation of a Child in Kansas City, Kansas. He further admitted that in approximately June 2008, he moved from Denver, Colorado, to Crane, Texas, but failed to register as a sex offender in Crane. Pena has a prior state conviction in Kansas, and two prior state convictions in Colorado, for failing to register.

Judge Junell similarly sentenced 22 year old Dustin Luke Slater to twenty-four months in prison, and five years supervised release. In his guilty plea on October 13, 2008, Slater admitted that in 2007, he had been convicted in Rio Grande County, Colorado, of Sexual Assault of a Child—Victim Under 15. He further admitted that in approximately May 2008, he absconded from a halfway house in Colorado where he had been placed as a consequence of the sexual assault conviction, and moved to Midland, but failed to register upon his arrival.

Both cases were investigated by the United States Marshals Service. Assistant United States Attorney John S. Klassen prosecuted Pena and Slater on behalf of the Government.

#####